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## LOCAL MEETINGS AND OTHER NOTICES.

ANNUAL MEETING. — The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the American Folk-Lore Society will be held in connection with the American Anthropological Society, Section N, Anthropology, A. A. A. S., and other affiliated societies, in Washington, D. C., the last week in December. A full attendance is especially desired. Members having papers to present will please communicate titles to the Secretary.

CINCINNATI BRANCH. — The officers of the Cincinnati Branch of the American Folk-Lore Society are as follows: President, Mr. F. M. Youmans; Vice-President, Dr. C. D. Crank; Secretary, Mrs. George C. Weimer, 839 Dayton Street; Treasurer, Mr. Robert Ralston Jones, 251 Loraine Avenue. Executive Committee: Mr. E. S. Ebbert, Mrs. Albert D. McLeod, Dr. Josua Lindahl, Mrs. Emma S. Miller.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

## BOOKS.

THE TERMS HIRED MAN AND HELP. By ALBERT MATTHEWS. Reprinted from The Publications of The Colonial Society of Massachusetts, vol. v. Cambridge: John Wilson & Son, University Press. 1900. Pp. 34.

BROTHER JONATHAN. By ALBERT MATTHEWS. Reprinted from The Publications of The Colonial Society of Massachusetts, vol. vii. Cambridge: John Wilson & Son, University Press. 1902. Pp. 34.

THE TERM INDIAN SUMMER. By ALBERT MATTHEWS. Reprinted from the Monthly Weather Review for January and February, 1902. Pp. 52.

Mr. Matthews's contributions to the study of American-English words and phrases are models of thoroughgoing investigation and tireless research, as these three papers amply demonstrate. The first paper contains much valuable information concerning indentured persons, servants, and "hired help" at various periods of American history. According to the author, "When, as a consequence of the dislike to the word 'servant,' a euphemistic substitute for the hated appellation was desired, the terms 'hired man,' 'hired woman,' 'hired girl,' 'hired boy,' etc. (of which — except the first — there is absolutely no trace before 1776) came into vogue, and have remained in use as survivals, even, though, since 1863, they have lost all significance as descriptive terms" (p. 10). Before 1776, the term "hired man" seems to have been "purely a descriptive one, there not being the slightest indication of its having been employed in a euphemistic sense." Between 1776 and 1863 "the term is still merely a descriptive one [for the most part], distinguishing the person so designated from a slave." The term "hired man" appeared to have developed from "hired freeman." As a parallel euphemism, the reviewer would cite the "paying guest" of modern summer resorts, whose origin seems due to antipathy